

Franklin School Committee Minutes

May 27, 2014

Municipal Building – Council Chambers

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Call to order: 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Mullen

Mrs. Mullen read the Districts Vision Statement. The Vision Statement reads the Franklin Public Schools will foster within its students the knowledge and skills to find and achieve satisfaction in life as productive global citizens.

Pledge of Allegiance:

An 8th grader from the Remington Middle School recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Mrs. Douglas, Mr. O'Malley, Mrs. Rohrbach, Mr. Clement, Mrs. Mullen, Mrs. Trahan and FHS representatives Maegan Schmauder and Thomas Downing were present. Also present were Superintendent Maureen Sabolinski, Assistant Superintendent Sally Winslow, Miriam Goodman, School Business Administrator, and other invited guests. Mr. Jewell was not in attendance.

Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was observed.

1. Routine Business

- Citizens Comments: None
- Review of Agenda: No additional items.
- Minutes:
I recommend approval of the minutes from the May 13, 2014 School Committee Meeting.
Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approve: 6
Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes	Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: Yes	Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes	Mr. Jewell: Absent
Mr. Clement: Yes	
- Payment of Bills: Mr. Clement
Mr. Clement made a motion to accept two sets of warrants.
Motion: Mr. Clement
Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approve: 6

Absent: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

- Payroll:
Mrs. Douglas reviewed the payroll, found it to be in order and recommended acceptance.
- FHS Student Representatives: Thomas noted that seniors are finished with classes. He also noted PARCC testing occurred last week and went smoothly and that Senior Week is next week. Maegan updated the Committee on sports scores and noted class elections were held last week. She also noted the new cell phone policy that is being tested at the high school. Mrs. Sabolinski explained that Mr. Light asked students to collect data on technology use policies and procedures and challenged students to determine what acceptable use should be. Mrs. Mullen noted that this is the last meeting for our FHS Student Representatives. Maegan will attend Rochester Institute of Technology and Thomas will attend Boston College in the fall. Mrs. Mullen presented them with a card thanking them for their service.
- Correspondence: There was no correspondence to discuss at this evening's meeting.

2. Guests/Presentations:

- a. Davis Thayer Update: Mrs. McNeil and Mrs. Wasik discussed with the Committee the co-teaching model they are using at the school. They are in the first year of this model which has been implemented in grades 3-5. One classroom in each grade 3-5, has a general education teacher and a special education teacher who co-teach. Mrs. McRury, Mrs. Renaud, Ms. Taylor and Ms. Gray were on hand to speak about the model. They discussed how this model allows students to receive specialized instruction in the least restrictive environment. Students are not being pulled from the classroom which allows them better access to core instruction. In turn, this reduces the negative stigma associated with being pulled out of the classroom. Teachers noted they are seeing a lot of growth amongst students as well as higher stanine levels. Mrs. Wasik noted that they will continue to provide co-teaching in grades 3-5 and possibly move to other grade levels. Mr. O'Malley wondered how they pick the students and teachers to make this work. Mrs. McNeil commented that they asked for volunteers from the teachers and picked students who needed the most support. Mrs. Mullen asked if they are finding that parents are requesting to have their child placed in the co-teaching class room and Mrs. McNeil noted that they are.

- b. Keller Update: Ms. Vincentsen along with several teachers discussed the co-teaching model at Keller. They are in their second year. She asked, “How do we individualize our instruction to meet the needs of the diverse learners in the elementary classroom?” Co – teaching is one method. The teachers noted how this model allows for smaller group instruction. The teacher will teach a focus lesson and then the kids will split off into small groups – allowing teachers to work more closely with all students. In the 3rd and 5th grade, they have co-teaming – which is two teachers and one special educator who share the children. Some challenges teachers find with the co-teaching model include planning time – they noted the need to be flexible and work around everyone’s schedule. Mrs. Rohrbach wondered about their data comparing the first year to the second year. Mrs. Vincentsen noted they have seen great growth both years. It was also noted that students with learning disabilities in reading have made a year or more worth of growth. Mr. O’Malley and Mr. Clement both wondered about the financial implications of this model. Mr. O’Malley would love to see us go forward with this further noting that students learn better in an environment when they are included. It was noted that professional development funding is needed as well as a special educator for each grade level. It was also noted that resources were reallocated to make this happen.

There was a 5 – minutes recess.

- c. MKEA: Ms. Edwards discussed with the Committee the MKEA Initiative. In collaboration with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Early Education & Care (EEC) is implementing the Massachusetts Kindergarten Entry Assessment (MKEA) system, which will support school districts in using a formative assessment tool that measures growth and learning across all developmental domains during the child’s kindergarten year. This initiative stems from the Federal identification of the need to improve Grade 3 test results across the country. In order for us to continue receiving grant monies for having full day kindergarten, we must implement this initiative. We are required to administer these assessments or we will lose our kindergarten grant funding. Teachers will administer a formative (diagnostic) assessment in the fall and a summative assessment in the spring to determine growth over time. This is not a kindergarten readiness tool but instead designed to look at program quality and outcome data. There are ten domains that will be tested such as physical, language, literacy, cognition, social-emotional, etc. However, in our first year, we are only required to test in two domains: social-emotional and a portion of the cognitive objectives. The long term costs of this initiative are still unknown. Kindergarten classroom teachers, as well as special educators, Title I Teachers and ELL teachers will all partake in 2 days of training before the beginning of the school year. Mrs. Douglas wonders where teachers will find the time to do these assessments. Mrs. Trahan noted this will be hours worth of work for each student. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that this is bad educational policy – going after 5 year olds is illogical. Mr. Clement noted that the assessments are subjective, since they are based on personal observations. Mrs. Mullen and Mrs. Rohrbach

both noted they have seen many mandates come through – but this one has reached the level of ridiculous. Mrs. Sabolinski noted that we tried to push back but we were denied. She further noted that the grant money covers four teaching positions – and it is a lot of money to walk away from.

3. Discussion Only Items:

- **Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan:** Mrs. Winslow noted that the Committee has the updated draft plan in their packet. Recent changes in the law required updates to this plan. The major changes include a change in the definition of bullying, a change to the flowchart as a result of the change to the definition, as well as changes to the language involving the steps taken to investigate bullying. Next steps include the policy sub-committee review, then it will come back to the school committee for a first and second read.
- **New Policy – Second Readings:** Mrs. Trahan noted that she did not hear from anyone since the last meeting regarding these policies. They are slated for approval as Action Items.
 1. GBADA – Fingerprint-Based Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Checks made for Non-Criminal Justice Purposes
 2. CB – School Superintendent
- **Policy Elimination – Second Readings:** Mrs. Trahan noted that she did not hear back from anyone since the last meeting regarding the elimination of these policies. They are slated for elimination as Action Items.
 1. CBC – Superintendents Powers and Responsibilities
 2. BDC – Appointed Committee Officials

4. Action Items:

1. I recommend approval of budget transfers as detailed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 6

Absent: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes

Mr. O'Malley: Yes

Mrs. Trahan: Yes

Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes

Mr. Jewel: Absent

Mr. Clement: Yes

2. I recommend acceptance of checks totaling \$405 in memory of Joseph DeNapoli as follows:

- Mary Picht - \$50
- Judith & Carl Beckett & Charles & Joe Dierling - \$50
- Mr. & Mrs. Sherman Rivolla - \$50
- Lois M. Scott - \$25
- Barbara Houston - \$100

- Mary Tarallo - \$30
- Paul & Judith Badavas - \$50
- Elizabeth Vassiliou - \$50

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 6

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

3. I recommend acceptance of a check for \$4,438.50 from the Davis Thayer PCC for field trips.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 6

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

4. I recommend adopting Policy GBADA – Fingerprint-Based Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Checks Made for Non-Criminal Justice Purposes as discussed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 5 No: 1

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

Mr. O'Malley stated that he wants to be recorded in opposition. He feels this policy is obnoxious and demeaning to teachers. What he finds most disheartening, is there was no public discussion about this policy.

Mrs. Douglas: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: No
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

5. I recommend adopting Policy CB – School Superintendent as discussed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 6

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

6. I recommend elimination of Policy CBC – Superintendents Powers and Responsibilities as discussed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach

Approval: 6

Absent: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

7. I recommend elimination of Policy BDC – Appointed Committee Officials as discussed.

Motion: Mrs. Trahan
Approval: 6

Second: Mrs. Rohrbach
Absent: 1

Mrs. Douglas: Yes
Mr. O'Malley: Yes
Mrs. Rohrbach: Yes
Mr. Clement: Yes

Mrs. Mullen: Yes
Mrs. Trahan: Yes
Mr. Jewel: Absent

5. Information Matters:

- Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Sabolinski noted that the Committee will need to decide on whether to use the MCAS testing or PARCC testing by June 30th. She will provide a presentation on the pro's and con's of both at the next school committee meeting. The Committee will then vote at the last meeting in June. She also noted that the Anti-Bullying training was well attended and well received by parents.
- School Committee Sub-Committee Reports: No new information discussed at this time.
- School Committee Liaison Reports: No new information discussed at this time.

6. **New Business:** Mrs. Mullen noted that the Farewell to the High School party scheduled for June 27th has been cancelled. Tours of the current high school will still take place on June 21st from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Mr. O'Malley noted an article in the Boston Globe regarding our Advanced Placement (AP) students. He noted that the article says we have shown to be excellently represented with more than half our senior class taking AP exams and scoring a very high rating. He further noted that teachers deserve a great deal of thanks. Mrs. Sabolinski added that next year, 820 requests to take AP classes were submitted to Guidance. This is the most requests we have received. She further noted we have been cited as exemplar by the College Board for the past three years as we are widening access to AP courses and increasing our scores.

7. Adjourn: 9 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Barker

*Franklin School Committee
Minutes – May 27, 2014
Final Copy*

List of documents:

SCAgenda 5-27-14.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1423 earnings.pdf

Payroll Warrant #1423.pdf

Franklin Public Schools summary & sign off.pdf

SCWarrant042414.pdf

SCWarrant050114.pdf

Franklin Public Schools summary & sign off.pdf

SCWarrant050814.pdf

SCWarrant051514.pdf

Davis Thayer SC Update - CoTeaching.pdf

Keller School Co-teaching Implementation.pdf

MKEA School Committee May 27.pdf

1, Bully Plan Draft 2014 final 4-30-14.pdf

2. GBADA - Fingerprint-Based Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Checks made for non-Criminal Justice Purposes.pdf

3. CB --School Superintendent.pdf

4. CBC --Supt Powers and Responsibilities.pdf

5. BDC -Appointed Commiteee Officials.pdf

ActionA.pdf

ActionB.pdf

ActionC.pdf

ActionD.pdf

ActionE.pdf

ActionF.pdf

ActionG.pdf

5-27-14Memo.pdf

May-June Newsletter.pdf